

REGION 2**NEPA VALIDATION & VERIFICATION FORM 36 CFR 228.102 (e)(1)**for
Oil & Gas Leasing**I. INTRODUCTION****A. FOREST:** White River National Forest**DISTRICT:** Rifle

Legal description of proposed lease parcel:

FEDERAL SURFACE/FEDERAL (PUBLIC DOMAIN) MINERALST. 7 S., R. 93 W., 6th PM

Sec. 19: Lots 5, 6, 9-12, 17, 18;

Sec. 20: N2, W2SW, N2SE, SWSE;

Sec. 29: Lots 4, 9, 12;

Sec. 30: Lots 5, 6, 12;

Sec. 30: S2NE, N2SE, SWSE;

B. Land Status:

1. Is the parcel or portions of the parcel administratively unavailable for leasing? () YES (X) NO
If yes, reason for unavailability:

2. Lease Proposal:

Includes private land with Federal minerals? () YES (X) NO

If yes, are NFS issues involved? () YES () NO

If yes, attach Forest Service issues and recommendations for private lands. NFS
recommendations to BLM for private lands are not binding or subject to appeal.

II. NEW INFORMATION 36 CFR 228.102(e)(1)

- A. Has leasing been adequately addressed in a NEPA document? (X) YES () NO

Name of Document: White River NF Land and Resource Management Plan, 2002 Revision;FEIS Oil and Gas Leasing, WRNF, 1993; Oil and Gas Leasing Record of Decision, 1993;Supplemental Information Report on Implementing the Lynx Direction, March 2005;Biological Evaluation, Biological Opinion, March 2002; Southern Rockies Lynx ManagementDirection Record of Decision, October 2008.

- B. Is there significant new information or circumstances as defined by 40 CFR 1502.9 requiring
additional environmental analysis? () YES (X) NO

If yes, additional NEPA required:

- C. Is leasing this parcel consistent with the Forest Land/Grassland and Resource Management Plan?
(X) YES () NO
- D. Are conditions of occupancy properly included as stipulations in the resulting lease?
(X) YES () NO
- E. Are operations and development allowable on the proposed lease except where stipulations will
prohibit all surface occupancy? (X) YES () NO

Serial Number: _____

Report Number: CO-1621

**III. SUMMARY OF VERIFICATION ANALYSIS AND RECORD OF
CONSENT/DENIAL TO LEASE:**

() A. Consent to issuance of the lease subject to Standard Lease Terms and Forest Service Notice for Lands. (R2-FS-2820-13 (92))

(X) B. Consent to issuance of the lease subject to Standard Lease Terms and Forest Service Notice for Lands R2-FS-2820-13 92, (SLT) and the following stipulations:

X No Surface Occupancy Stipulation NSO – (Roadless Area / Steep Slope)

X Timing Limitation Stipulation TL – (Big Game Winter Range)/*ELK Production YAF 3/16/09*

Controlled Surface Use Stipulation CSU

X Lease Notice LN – (Lynx Habitat)

() C. Object deny to lease for all or part of the proposed lease area description of denied area and reason for denial attached.

IV. PREPARED BY:



David Francomb, WRNF Oil and Gas Specialist

Date: ³
10/16/2009

V. CONCURRENCE:



Glenn R. Adams, Rifle District Ranger

Date: ³
10/16/2009

MINIMUM ATTACHMENTS

Parcel Map 7.5 min. (Exhibit A)

Required Stipulations

Lease Notices

Check List (optional)

Lease Denial (if applicable)

Serial Number: _____
 Report Number: CO-1621

SPECIFIC VALIDATION/VERIFICATION FORM

	Stip Applied? Y/N	If yes, Stip type	Remarks	Reviewing Specialist, initial/date
1. Classified Area (by basis for classification):				
Scenic (state site-specific concern)	NO			DLG 3/11/09
Historical	NO			AB 3/11/09
Botanical	NO			DF 3/16/09
Zoological	NO			DF 3/16/09
Paleontological	NO			DF 3/16/09
Geological	NO			DF 3/16/09
Archaeological	NO			AB 3/11/09
Experimental Forest	NO			DF 3/16/09
Research Natural Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
2. Wilderness Study Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
Further Planning Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
3. Wild and Scenic River Corridor or Study Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
4. Slopes: Greater than 40%	NO			DF 3/16/09
Greater than 60%	YES	NSO		DF 3/16/09
5. High Erosion Hazard	NO			DF 3/16/09
6. High Geologic Hazard	NO			DF 3/16/09
7. Areas with Extremely Sensitive/Unstable:				
Soils	NO			JKA 3/16/09
Water	NO			JKA 3/16/09
Wetlands and/or Riparian Lands	NO			JKA 3/16/09
Geological Situations	NO			JKA 3/16/09
Alpine Vegetation	NO			JKA 3/16/09
8. Low VAC + Retention VDQ	NO			DF 3/16/09
9. Retention VDQ	NO			DF 3/16/09
10. Threatened & Endangered Species:				
Identify species: Lynx (denning/other habitat)	NO	LN		NG 3/16/09
Sensitive species:	NO			NG 3/16/09
11. Critical Wildlife Habitat Identified in Forest Plan:				
Winter Habitat	YES	TL	12/1-4/30	NG 3/16/09
Birthing Area	YES	TL	12/1-4/30	NG 3/16/09
Other specify: Fisheries	NO			GAG 3/13/09
12. Developed Recreation Sites	NO			KG 3/12/09
13. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum:				
Primitive	NO			KG 3/12/09
Semi-Primitive-motorized	NO			KG 3/12/09
Nonmotorized	NO			KG 3/12/09
14. Range Improvements	NO			LLR 3/13/09
15. Timber Sale Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
16. Timber Plantations	NO			DF 3/16/09
17. Timber Research or Special Study Areas	NO			DF 3/16/09
18. Seed Production Area	NO			DF 3/16/09
19. Travel Restrictions Per Travel Management Plan	NO			DF 3/16/09
20. Areas Eligible for Inclusion in National Register (NRHP):	NO			AB 3/11/09
Identify Eligible Areas:				
21. Special Use Occupancies	NO			JF 3/16/09
22. Other Unique Characteristics or Concerns Addressed	YES	NSO	Battlement (Mamm Peak) Roadless Area	DF 3/16/09

NOTICE FOR LANDS OF THE NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM
UNDER JURISDICTION OF
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The permittee/lessee must comply with all the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture set forth at Title 36, Chapter II, of the Code of Federal Regulations governing the use and management of the National Forest System (NFS) when not inconsistent with the rights granted by the Secretary of Interior in the permit. The Secretary of Agriculture's rules and regulations must be complied with for (1) all use and occupancy of the NFS prior to approval of a permit/operation plan by the Secretary of the Interior, (2) uses of all existing improvements, such as forest development roads, within and outside the area permitted by the Secretary of the Interior, and (3) use and occupancy of the NFS not authorized by a permit/operation plan approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

All matters related to this stipulation are to be addressed to:

Mary Morgan, **Forest Supervisor**,
White River National Forest
900 Grand Avenue
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602-0948
(970) 945-2521

who is the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture.

— **NOTICE**

CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES - The FS is responsible for assuring that the leased lands are examined to determine if cultural resources are present and to specify mitigation measures. Prior to undertaking any surface-disturbing activities on the lands covered by this lease, the lessee or operator, unless notified to the contrary by the FS, shall:

1. Contact the FS to determine if a site specific cultural resource inventory is required. If a survey is required, then:
2. Engage the services of a cultural resource specialist acceptable to the FS to conduct a cultural resource inventory of the area of proposed surface disturbance. The operator may elect to inventory an area larger than the area of proposed disturbance to cover possible site relocation which may result from environmental or other considerations. An acceptable inventory report is to be submitted to the FS for review and approval at the time a surface disturbing plan of operation is submitted.

3. Implement mitigation measures required by the FS and BLM to preserve or avoid destruction of cultural resource values. Mitigation may include relocation of proposed facilities, testing, salvage, and recordation or other protective measures. All costs of the inventory and mitigation will be borne by the lessee or operator, and all data and materials salvaged will remain under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Government as appropriate.

The lessee or operator shall immediately bring to the attention of the FS and BLM any cultural or paleontological resources or any other objects of scientific interest discovered as a result of surface operations under this lease, and shall leave such discoveries intact until directed to proceed by FS and BLM.

ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES - The FS is responsible for assuring that the leased land is examined prior to undertaking any surface-disturbing activities to determine effects upon any plant or animal species listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened, or their habitats. The findings of this examination may result in some restrictions to the operator's plans or even disallow use and occupancy that would be in violation of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 by detrimentally affecting endangered or threatened species or their habitats.

The lessee/operator may, unless notified by the FS that the examination is not necessary, conduct the examination on the leased lands at his discretion and cost. This examination must be done by or under the supervision of a qualified resource specialist approved by the FS. An acceptable report must be provided to the FS identifying the anticipated effects of a proposed action on endangered or threatened species or their habitats.

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION
Roadless Areas

No surface occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described below (legal subdivision or other description).

The Battlement Mesa, Assignment Ridge, White River, and Pagoda Peak roadless areas. The NSO stipulation applied to the Pagoda Peak roadless area will remain until the Routt National Forest analyzes the entire area in its Forest Plan revision.

Battlement Mesa Roadless Area (now known as Mamm Peak) –

ALL LANDS

On portions (or all, which ever is applicable) of the lands as shown on the attached map, Exhibit A.

For the purpose of:

Protecting the roadless character of the area.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820, FS Oil & Gas Regulations, 36 CFR, Sec. 228.104.)

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION
Slopes >60%

No surface occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described below (legal subdivision or other description).

Areas identified with the following characteristics:

1. Slopes steeper than 60 percent -

T. 7 S., R. 93 W., 6th PM
Sec. 19: Lots 11, 17, 18;
Sec. 20: SWNW, W2SW;

On portions (or all, which ever is applicable) of the lands as shown on the attached map, Exhibit A.

Exception Criteria:

Modification of this stipulation may occur as long as resource values are protected.

For the purpose of:

1. Preventing mass movements of earth such as landslides.
2. Maintaining or improving water quality to meet Federal and State standards.
3. Preventing significant or permanent impairment to the soil productivity.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820, FS Oil & Gas Regulations, 36 CFR, Sec. 228.104.)

TIMING LIMITATION STIPULATION
Big Game Winter Range

No surface use is allowed during the following time period(s). This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities.

1. Exploration, drilling and development activity will not be allowed during the period from December 1 to April 30.
2. New oil and gas roads on public lands will be closed yearlong to the public.

On the lands described below:

Elk and mule deer winter range –

T. 7 S., R. 93 W., 6th PM

Sec. 19: Lots 5, 6, 9-12, 17, 18;

Sec. 20: N2, W2SW, N2SE, SWSE;

Sec. 29: Lots 4, 9;

Sec. 30: Lots 5, 6, 12;

Sec. 30: S2NE, N2SE, SWSE;

On portions (or all, which ever is applicable) of the lands as shown on the attached map, Exhibit A.

For the purpose of (reasons):

These areas have been identified in coordination with the Colorado Division of Wildlife. These areas support and sustain a large percentage of the total winter populations. These areas are important for animal survival during winters of harsh winter conditions. Disturbances and habitat losses may place unnecessary stress on the wintering big game herds and cause an increase in mortality.

Condition under which this stipulation would be waived:

Winter conditions which would not concentrate big game on the winter ranges.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

TIMING STIPULATION
Elk Production Areas

No surface use is allowed during the following time period(s); this stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities.

1. Exploration, drilling and development activity will not be allowed during the period from May 1 through June 30.
2. New oil and gas roads on public lands will be closed yearlong to the public.

On lands described below:

Elk production areas – On portions of the lands as shown on the attached map, Exhibit A:

T. 7 S., R. 93 W., 6th PM
Sec. 19: Lots 11, 12, 17, 18;
Sec. 20: W2SW;
Sec. 29: Lots 4, 9, 12;
Sec. 30: Lots 5, 6, 12;
Sec. 30: S2NE, N2SE, SWSE;

For the purpose of:

These areas have been identified in coordination with the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Disturbance during the reproductive season may reduce herd productivity.

Condition under which this stipulation would be waived:

Conditions which would not concentrate elk on the production areas.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

R2-FS-2820

Serial No.: _____
Report No.: CO-1621

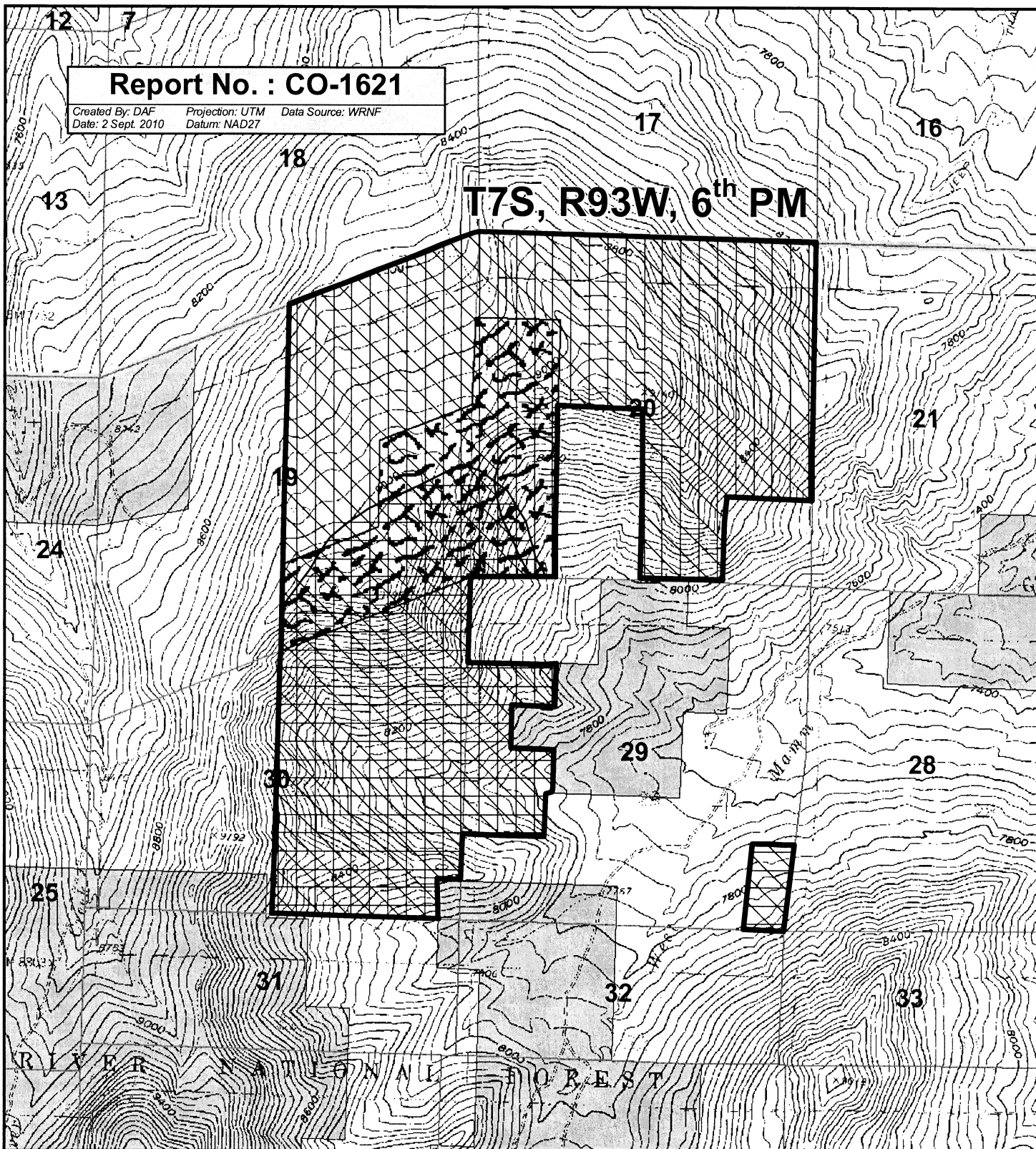
LEASE NOTICE
CANADA LYNX HABITAT OR LINKAGE AREAS

Lands in this lease contain mapped Canada lynx habitat and/or linkage areas. The Lessee is encouraged to contact the local Forest Service Ranger District office for maps of Canada lynx habitat or linkage areas, and potential site-specific requirements for conservation of Canada lynx habitat or linkage areas prior to proposing operations on the lease. The Forest Service will assess any proposed operations to determine effects on Canada lynx. Results of this assessment may result in some restrictions on proposed operations, or disallow use and occupancy if they would be in violation of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Report No. : CO-1621

Created By: DAF Projection: UTM Data Source: WRNF
Date: 2 Sept. 2010 Datum: NAD27

T7S, R93W, 6th PM



Notice for Lands of the National Forest System

White River National Forest



White River National Forest



Private



No Surface Use Occupancy:
Steep Slopes



No Surface Use Occupancy:
Roadless



Timing Limitation:
Big Game Winter Range



Timing Limitation:
Elk Production Area

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

EXHIBIT A

Report No. CO- 1621 Lease No. _____

White River National Forest

Garfield County, Colorado

X FEDERAL Surface/ X FEDERAL Minerals

Topographic Quad(s): North Mamm Peak

Subject to: Standard Lease Terms

N

Lease Boundary



Lease Boundary

1:24,000